

Camden receive the hospital care they need. Congratulations, again.

RECOGNIZING THE 2020 VFW POST
7327 AMERICANISM AWARDS RE-
CIPIENTS

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 1, 2020

Mr. CONNOLLY. Madam Speaker, I rise to recognize the Veterans of Foreign Wars Post 7327 in Springfield, Virginia and the winners of its 2020 Americanism Awards.

The Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) traces its beginnings to 1899 when veterans of the Spanish American War established local organizations to bring awareness to their service and to advocate for veteran's retirement benefits and improved medical care. Annually, the nearly 2 million members of the VFW and its Auxiliaries contribute more than 8.6 million hours of volunteerism in the community, including participation in Make A Difference Day and National Volunteer Week.

With approximately 600 Comrades and 150 Ladies Auxiliary members, the Springfield

VFW Post 7327 stands out for the depth of its commitment to our community. Often called "The Friendliest VFW Post in Virginia," Post 7327 has one of the most aggressive ADOPT-A-UNIT programs in the entire VFW organization to support our service members stationed overseas. VFW Post 7327 visits the VA hospital at least quarterly, bringing along goodie bags for our Wounded Warriors. Each Thanksgiving and Christmas, VFW Post 7327 adopts military families in need through the USO and provides them with meal baskets for each holiday, gifts for children, commissary cards for the parents, and a Christmas party where the children can meet Santa and receive a gift-filled stocking. The Ladies Auxiliary members collect, sort, and distribute more than 2,000 pieces of clothing each month to various charitable organizations.

VFW Post 7327 is a strong supporter of local youth organizations including the Boys Scouts, Girl Scouts, and Little League Baseball that contribute greatly to the education and well-being of our children.

Each year, VFW Post 7327 bestows awards to local students who have submitted outstanding essays on a specific theme and to local teachers and public safety officers in rec-

ognition of their extraordinary actions and dedication to the community.

I am honored to include in the RECORD the names of this year's award recipients.

Patriot's Pen: 1st Place—Aleksandra S. Foss, 2nd Place—Manas A Puri, 3rd Place—Angelica M. Shea.

Voice of Democracy: 1st Place—Prescott D. Farris.

Elementary School (K–6): Janet Basselgia, Kristin Tull.

Middle School (7–8): Cindy A. Downing, Lisa Reaves, Andrea Stanton.

High School (9–12): LTC Thomas "Tim" Lambert.

EMT Awards: Firefighter Medic Erin T. Eusanio.

Law Enforcement Awards: PFC Mark Tenally.

Firefighter Award: Firefighter Medic Timothy Gensimore.

Community Americanism Award: SevaTruck Foundation.

Madam Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in thanking VFW Post 7327 for its continued efforts on behalf of our community and in congratulating the honorees of the 2020 Americanism Awards.